



ANNUAL REPORT

Training Accreditation Council
2025 - 2026



Training Accreditation Council
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

This annual report is published on the Training Accreditation Council's website wa.gov.au/tac.
For further information contact TAC@dtwd.wa.gov.au.

Acknowledgement: Cover image is licensed from Canva; other images licensed from Microsoft.

© Government of Western Australia, Training Accreditation Council, 2026.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT	1
2. 2025-2026 HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY ACTIVITIES.....	3
3. THE COUNCIL AT A GLANCE	4
3.1 Functions of the Council	4
3.2 Context in which the Council works.....	5
3.3 Membership.....	5
3.4 Planning and Reporting Framework.....	5
3.5 Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Training and Workforce Development.	6
3.6 VET Regulatory Arrangements	6
3.7 The Registration Standards 2025.....	6
4. APPROACH TO REGULATION	8
5. STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES	9
5.1 PRIORITY 1: Regulate the Western Australian Vocational Education and Training Sector	10
5.1.1 Registered Training Organisations.....	10
5.1.2 The TAC Audit Process.....	11
5.1.3 TAC Regulatory Activity	13
5.1.4 Registration Activity and Applications Endorsed.....	14
5.1.5 Risk Management of Applications.....	14
5.1.6 Overview of Audits	15
5.1.7 Accredited Courses.....	20
5.1.8 Complaints Management.....	21
5.1.9 Appeals of Council Decisions.....	22
5.1.10 Annual Declaration on Compliance	22
5.1.11 Replacement of Equivalent Training Products	22
5.1.12 Extension to Transition Periods for Training Products.....	22
5.2 PRIORITY 2: Enable the Effective Operation of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)	23
5.2.1 Education Program Initiatives	23
5.2.2 Communication Strategies.....	24
5.2.3 Review of Council Policies and Operations	25
5.2.4 RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers	25
5.2.5 Fees and charges	26
5.3 PRIORITY 3: Lead the Continuous Improvement of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) Sector	27
5.3.1 Focus on Quality: TAC Regulatory Strategy 2023-2025.....	27
5.3.2 TAC Regulatory Strategy 1 January 2026-30 June 2027.....	29
5.3.3 Continuous Improvement - Feedback from RTOs and Stakeholders.....	32
5.4 PRIORITY 4: Apply Good Governance and Act in the Public Interest.....	33
5.4.1 Council Membership 2025-2026	34
5.4.2 Operations of the Council.....	34
5.4.3 Remuneration.....	35
5.4.4 Compliance with the Standards for VET Regulators 2015	35

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

Tables

Table 1	Panel of RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers	26
Table 2	Council Remuneration.....	35

Figures

Figure 1	Profile of RTOs	10
Figure 2	RTOs by Type of Business	10
Figure 3	Applications Endorsed.....	14
Figure 4	Total Risk Assessments.....	14
Figure 5	Overview of Audits Conducted	15
Figure 6	Total Number of Audits by Method	15
Figure 7	Audit Outcome at Main Audit	16
Figure 8	Compliance Level at Main Audit.....	16
Figure 9	Compliance Level at Evidence Review	17
Figure 10	Initial Registration Audits	18
Figure 11	Amendment to Registration Audits	18
Figure 12	Renewal of Registration Audits	19
Figure 13	Audits Initiated by TAC	19
Figure 14	Accredited Courses	20
Figure 15	Accredited Courses Activity	20
Figure 16	Accreditation Reviews	21
Figure 17	Complaint Enquiries	21
Figure 18	RTO/Course Owner Feedback Post Audit	33

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson BA MLA

MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND DECARBONISATION; MANUFACTURING; SKILLS AND TAFE;
PILBARA

In accordance with section 30 of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996*, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Training Accreditation Council for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.



Allan Blagaich
Chairperson Training Accreditation Council
10 September 2026

Acknowledgement of Country

The Training Accreditation Council acknowledges Aboriginal peoples as the First Nations of Western Australia. The Council respects the ancestral ties and ongoing relationships with the lands, waters, communities and spiritual connections to Country. The Council honours Elders, both past and present and recognises the contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals within the organisation. Together, we work in partnership towards a more inclusive and shared future for all Australians.

For further information

Training Accreditation Council
1 Prospect Place, West Perth WA 6005
P: Locked Bag 16, Osborne Park DC WA 6916
T: 08 9224 6510 (Monday to Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm)
E: tac@dtwd.wa.gov.au | W: wa.gov.au/tac

1. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

On behalf of the Training Accreditation Council, it is my privilege to present the Council's Annual Report for the 2025-2026 financial year.

Appointed as Chairperson on 7 April 2026, my involvement in the preparation of the Annual Report has provided a great opportunity to reflect on the substantial achievements of the Council to 30 June 2026.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my predecessor Ms Anne Driscoll, who served as Chairperson for the previous five years. I would like to thank Ms Driscoll for her significant contribution to the Council and the vocational education and training (VET) sector more broadly. Ms Driscoll's commitment and expertise have strengthened the Council's work and she has left a lasting positive impact on the sector.

The TAC Annual Report 2025-2026 provides an overview of the Council's activities and performance against its Strategic Plan over the past 12 months, highlighting its achievements in delivering a client focused regulatory service in Western Australia.

Of significance this year has been the introduction of the new Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), the Registration Standards 2025 (2025 Standards). To implement the 2025 Standards for TAC regulated RTOs, the WA Government enacted amendments to the *WA Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009* and the new Standards commenced from 1 January 2026.

Over the past 12 months, the Council has undertaken a significant education and communication program to assist RTOs in their understanding and interpretation of the 2025 Standards and readiness for their implementation.

This preparation has also extended to the Council's operations. RTO application templates, self-assessment tools, audit report format, TAC policies and RTO and Auditor portals have been updated to support implementation of the 2025 Standards and ensure Council processes align.

The Council also prioritised substantial engagement with stakeholders throughout the year, recognising the importance of collaboration, consultation and the timely exchange of information. The 2026–2027 TAC Regulatory Strategy is the culmination of this engagement, identifying the risks to quality delivery in WA and the areas of focus for the Council in minimising those risks. Stakeholder engagement remains a key element of the Council's Strategic Plan, providing valuable intelligence on emerging trends, risks and challenges and ensures regulation remains effective, transparent and proportionate.

The Council continues to maintain a strong reputation for its quality assurance and regulatory oversight of Western Australia's VET sector. This reputation is underpinned by the expertise, professionalism and collective commitment of Council members.

I extend my sincere thanks to all Council members for their ongoing contribution, collaboration and support throughout 2025-2026. Their dedication and insight have been invaluable in enabling the Council to effectively fulfil its responsibilities.

I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of outgoing Council member, Ms Keryn Carter and thank her for her service to the Council.

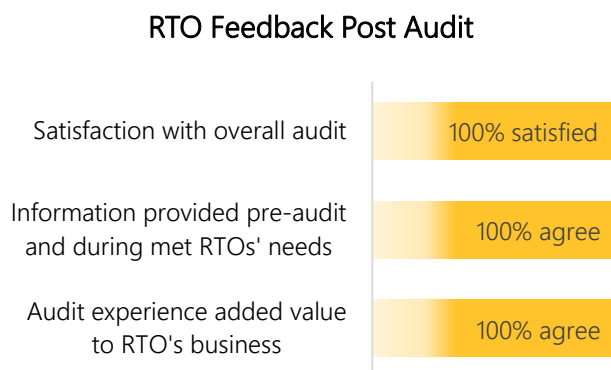
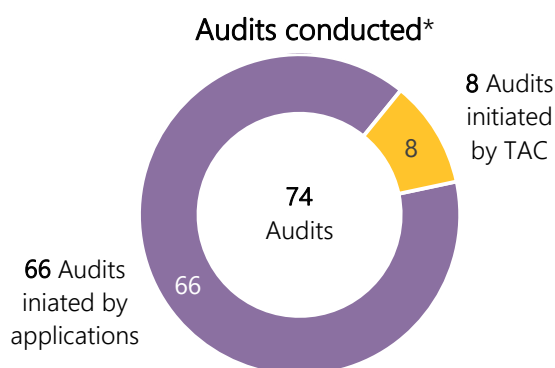
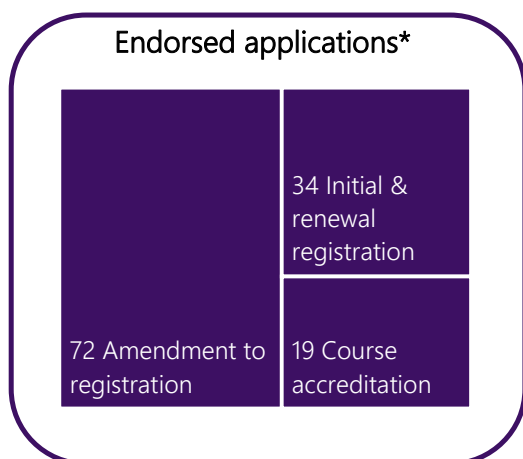
At the same time, I am pleased to welcome Dr Sharon Ivey, who was appointed to the Council on the 29 June 2026. I look forward to her contribution to the Council's important work in the years ahead and acknowledge Ms Barbara-Anne Brown on her reappointment.

The Council extends its sincere appreciation and thanks to the Secretariat team provided by the Department of Training and Workforce Development, for their dedication, diligence and unwavering support during 2025-2026. Their high standards of service, sound advice and collaborative approach have been invaluable to the Council's operations and achievements.



ALLAN BLAGAICH
CHAIRPERSON
TRAINING ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

2. 2025-2026 HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY ACTIVITIES



Implementation of the Registration Standards 2025

Launch of the Registration Standards 2025 Guidance Hub on the TAC website as the key source of information on the 2025 Standards.

The release of:

- 3 Webinars
- 10 Fact Sheets
- 1 Secondary School Workshop
- 4 Regional Workshops to support RTO implementation.

Education Program Participation



499 participants in the education program

Engagement with the Sector



116 formal meetings with stakeholders

*The total number of audits conducted and endorsed applications do not agree. For example, some audits may have occurred in 2024-2025 and reported in that financial year, but the endorsement of application occurred in 2025-2026 and is reported in this financial year.

3. THE COUNCIL AT A GLANCE

The Council is Western Australia's Vocational Education and Training (VET) Regulator and is an independent statutory body responsible for the quality assurance and recognition of VET services in WA.

The Council delivers a client-focused regulatory service and as a state-based regulatory authority, oversees the VET provider market to ensure quality outcomes and continuous improvement within the sector and responsiveness to state priorities and risks.

Our Vision

Vocational education and training in Western Australia is valued and trusted.

Our Purpose

The Training Accreditation Council is a contemporary, client-focused regulator of Vocational Education and Training in Western Australia.

Our Values

INTEGRITY	We are honest, accountable and transparent.
RESPECT	We are fair and equitable. We listen and care.
EXCELLENCE	We continuously improve. We innovate and lead by example.
COMMITMENT	We are responsive and collaborate with others. We are reliable and consistent.

3.1 FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council's functions are detailed in Part 4 and 7A of the *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996* and include the registration of training providers and accreditation of courses.

In discharging its functions, the Council may:

- register training providers;
- accredit courses;
- inquire into training providers and courses;
- vary, suspend or cancel registration or accreditation; and
- cancel qualifications.

3.2 CONTEXT IN WHICH THE COUNCIL WORKS

The Council operates within an agreed national VET regulatory framework aimed at achieving national consistency in the way Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and accredited courses are registered and monitored.

The Council's operating framework includes the:

- *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996* (VET Act);
- *Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009* (VET Regulations);
- Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) 2021 Standards for Accredited Courses
- Standards for VET Regulators 2015;
- Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (Standards for RTOs 2015); and
- the VET Regulations, amended 1 January 2026, to include the VET quality framework incorporating:
 - Registration Standards 2025 including the Outcome Standards, Compliance Standards and Fit and Proper Person Requirements;
 - Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF);
 - Data provision requirements; and
 - Financial Viability Assessment Requirements as outlined in the Financial Viability Assessment Guidelines for the Registration of Training Providers 2017 issued by the (then) Minister for Education and Training under Section 13 of the VET Act.

3.3 MEMBERSHIP

The Council has seven members who are appointed by the Minister responsible in accordance with Section 25 of the VET Act. Members are appointed on the basis of their expertise, qualifications and experience relevant to the Council's functions.

For the reporting period, the members were:

- Anne Driscoll, Chairperson (July 2025 – March 2026)
- Allan Blagaich, Chairperson, (from April 2026)
- Barbara-Anne Brown, Royal Flying Doctor Service – Western Operations
- Keryn Carter, WA Academy of Hair and Beauty and Volona Group (to June 2026)
- Mairead Dempsey, WA Police Force
- Louise Hillman, Council Member
- Jill Jamieson, J Jamieson Consulting
- Bill Swetman, Council Member
- Dr Sharon Ivey, Council Member (from June 2026)

3.4 PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The Council's planning and reporting framework consists of:

- the Council's [Strategic Plan](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/tac-strategic-plan)¹ from 1 January 2025–30 June 2028, reviewed annually;
- a corresponding Secretariat Operational Plan; and
- the TAC Annual Report, prepared on a financial year basis, reports on the Council's performance against the four key priority areas outlined in its Strategic Plan and outlines how the Council has fulfilled its regulatory responsibilities under the VET Act and the Standards for VET Regulators 2015.

¹ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/tac-strategic-plan>

3.5 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Council's Secretariat (the Secretariat) is hosted by the Department of Training and Workforce Development (the Department or DTWD). A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Council and the Department ensures Council's independence to provide transparency and a framework to enable Council to perform its functions under the VET Act. The MoU ensures ongoing collaboration between the Council and the Department on national and State policy impacting the WA VET sector.

A direct line of reporting from the Secretariat's Director Training Regulation to the Director General, DTWD removes any perceived conflict of interest from operational areas and ensures the Council's independence over regulatory activity and regulatory decisions.

During the reporting period, the MoU operated effectively and the Council met its regulatory requirements. Compliance with the MoU has been maintained.

3.6 VET REGULATORY ARRANGEMENTS

The governance and strategic direction of VET regulation is jointly owned by Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers through the Skills and Workforce Ministerial Council.

There are three VET regulators responsible for regulating the VET sector within their jurisdictions:

- the Council;
- the national VET regulator - the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA); and
- the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA).

An MoU between VET regulators ensures efficient and effective regulation across all jurisdictions. The current MoU was endorsed on 19 February 2025.

As a State-based VET regulator, the Council regulates providers that deliver nationally recognised training to domestic students in Western Australia, or that operate only in Western Australia and Victoria. RTOs operating in multiple jurisdictions and/or that deliver to international students are regulated by ASQA.

3.7 THE REGISTRATION STANDARDS 2025

In March 2025, Commonwealth, State and Territory Skills Ministers agreed to the revised Standards for RTOs. The new national Standards are designed to:

- support RTOs to deliver nationally consistent, high-quality VET that leads to quality outcomes for students, industry, employers and the broader Australian community;
- ensure training and assessment provided by RTOs align with industry requirements, as specified in training packages and accredited courses, and equip students with the skills needed for employment and further study; and
- promote integrity in RTO operations while ensuring the needs of both students and industry are effectively addressed.

By meeting the outcomes set out in the national Standards, RTOs can contribute to building increasing confidence in the sector; address risks to students and sector integrity; and design and deliver fit for purpose training that meets the needs of industry. In addition, the national Standards help to cultivate a shared understanding of what constitutes quality training delivery and embeds a culture of quality for all users of the VET system.

The national Standards outline the requirements organisations must meet to obtain and maintain registration to deliver nationally recognised training and consist of:

- Outcome Standards;
- Compliance Standards incorporating Fit and Proper Person Requirements and the Nationally Recognised Training Logo Conditions of Use; and
- a Credential Policy, which sets out the qualifications and credentials for trainers and assessors.

In March 2025, the Commonwealth Government published the national Standards under the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011* (NVETRA). The national VET Regulator, the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) subsequently implemented the national Standards for all RTOs registered with them.

To implement the national Standards in Western Australia for all RTOs registered with the Council, amendments to the VET Regulations were required. The amendments came into effect in October 2025 and included:

- adoption of the national Standards within WA's regulatory framework with a commencement date of 1 January 2026;
- defining 'Outcome Standards' and 'Compliance Standards' to be collectively known as the Registration Standards 2025 (2025 Standards);
- incorporating a range of terms such as the Data Provision Requirements, Fit and Proper Person Requirements, 'VET quality framework' (Regulation 3) and 'governing person' (Regulation 7);
- incorporating the VET quality framework and fit and proper person requirements in initial registration and renewal of registration requirements (Regulation 12 and 16);
- amending the conditions of registration (Regulation 13) to incorporate;
 - complying with the VET quality framework;
 - providing written notice to the Council of a significant change to an RTO's operations; and
 - cooperating with and providing accurate information to the Council; and
- transition arrangements to support the implementation of the 2025 Standards, including if an:
 - RTO application for registration, renewal or variation was made; or
 - audit, compliance audit or investigation was commenced on, or prior to, 31 December 2025, then the 2015 Standards would apply (Regulation 64).

During the reporting period, the Council undertook a significant review of its operations in response to the regulatory amendments and the introduction of the 2025 Standards, ensuring its regulatory approach, systems, processes and policies are fit for purpose, support the intent of the 2025 Standards and the obligations and conditions of registration detailed in the VET Regulations. The Council also updated its ICT systems, audit report requirements and RTO application processes to align with the 2025 Standards.

Further information on the Council's implementation of the 2025 Standards is provided throughout the Annual Report.

4. APPROACH TO REGULATION

Quality VET outcomes are fundamental to the development of a skilled workforce to meet the needs of industry, productivity and the State Government's workforce development agenda.

The TAC Risk Framework² describes the Council's approach to risk-based regulation. The Framework ensures that regulatory responses are evidence based, responsive, adaptable, targeted and proportionate to the level of risk affecting the quality of VET outcomes, so that the Council delivers an integrated and balanced regulatory approach to support quality VET outcomes.

RISK FOCUS



The Council applies regulatory responses at two levels – provider and systemic risk. RTOs demonstrating patterns of poor compliance present a high risk to quality training and assessment outcomes. Systemic risks are those pertaining to multiple RTOs, industry sectors, training products, or components of the Standards that may be far-reaching.

Detailed data analysis and evidence collected from a range of sources are used to determine areas and levels of risk. This allows the TAC to direct its focus and resources to industry sectors, training products and/or RTOs posing the greatest risk, while monitoring and managing overall risk across the VET sector.

The TAC Risk Framework outlines a range of regulatory responses available to the Council which vary according to the nature and severity of the risk and their potential impacts. These regulatory responses include educative strategies, investigations, monitoring audits, strategic industry audits and in serious cases, varying, suspending or cancelling an RTO's registration.

The Council cannot work alone to manage the quality and integrity of the VET system and engages with a range of stakeholders who share the responsibility for the quality assurance of VET outcomes. TAC regularly seeks input from these stakeholders to inform its risk processes, regulatory activities and priorities. Stakeholder engagement may range from formal arrangements governed by a MoU with regular communications, to more informal collaborative activity.

A central element of the TAC's risk management is the provision of a comprehensive education program for RTOs and VET stakeholders. The program aims to support RTOs to build organisational capability and understanding, improve business operations, continuous improvement and support RTOs to meet their obligations.

² <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/training-accreditation-council-risk-framework>

5. STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES

The Council's [Strategic Plan 1 January 2025 – 30 June 2028](#)³ (the Plan) outlines the functions, responsibilities and regulatory approach of the Council as defined by the VET Act and the Standards for VET Regulators 2015.

The Plan sets out the Council's key strategic priorities, expected outcomes and strategies for the period.

The Council has identified four strategic priorities to meet its regulatory requirements through its own good governance and with a focus on compliance, quality assurance and continuous improvement of RTOs across the VET sector.

The Council's approach acknowledges the need for specific strategies to support the implementation of the 2025 Standards.

The Council's achievements against the Plan are detailed in the following pages. Its priorities include:

PRIORITY 1

Regulate the Western Australian VET sector

PRIORITY 2

Enable the effective operation of Registered Training Organisations

PRIORITY 3

Lead the continuous improvement of the VET sector

PRIORITY 4

Apply good governance and act in the public interest

³ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/tac-strategic-plan>

5.1 PRIORITY 1: Regulate the Western Australian Vocational Education and Training Sector

- Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) are compliant with the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 (the Standards) or the 2025 Standards
- Accredited courses are compliant with the AQTF2021 Standards for Accredited Courses

5.1.1 Registered Training Organisations

During the reporting period, of the 159 RTOs registered with the Council, 118 RTOs (74%) had their head office located in the Perth region and the remaining 41 RTOs (26%) were in regional Western Australia. The distribution of RTOs by location remained stable throughout the reporting period.

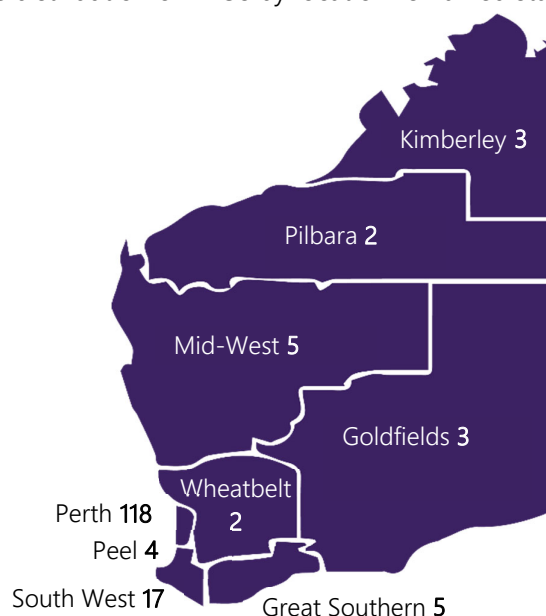


Figure 1. Profile of RTOs

As at 30 June 2026:

- six RTOs voluntarily relinquished registration;
- three RTOs transferred registration to another VET regulator; and
- one RTO had a sanction (cancellation or suspension) imposed on their registration.

During the reporting period 117 (74%) of the 159 RTOs registered with the Council were private RTOs. The remaining 42 RTOs (26%) included a range of business types as presented in Figure 2.

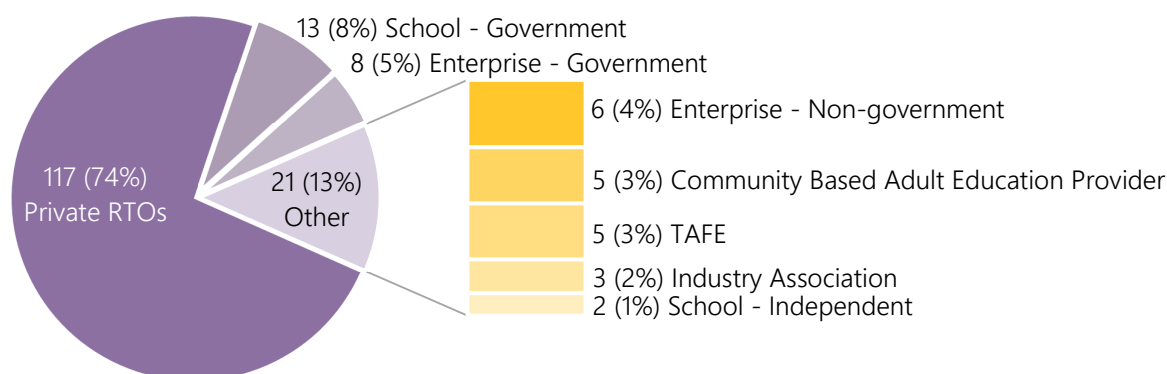


Figure 2. RTOs by Type of Business

5.1.2 The TAC Audit Process

TAC audits are undertaken in accordance with the VET Regulations, the Standards for VET Regulators 2015 and the TAC Risk Framework.

The primary objective of an audit is to establish that the RTO or applicant is meeting the applicable Standards for RTOs 2015 or 2025 Standards and provide the RTO with valuable information about the quality of its training, assessment, client services and the management systems it uses to meet its regulatory obligations and achieve quality outcomes.

The audits that could occur during an RTO's registration include:

- audits required as a result of an application; and
- audits initiated by TAC as part of its ongoing risk management approach.

Audits Resulting from Applications

When an application is received, TAC conducts a risk assessment to determine whether an audit is necessary. Audits resulting from applications include:

- Initial registration audits;
- Amendment to registration audits; and
- Renewal of registration audits.

Audits Initiated by TAC

Audits initiated by TAC are undertaken to monitor compliance or respond to an identified risk and include:

- Monitoring audits - Monitoring audits endorsed by TAC focus on components of the Standards for RTO 2015 or the 2025 Standards. These audits are often initiated to ensure that the actions proposed by an RTO to rectify non-compliances have been deployed, or to address particular training areas or concerns that have been raised by industry
- Complaint audits - TAC investigates complaints that relate to an RTO's compliance with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards. An audit can be initiated in response to a complaint if a review determines that there are grounds for further investigation or that there are potential breaches.
- Strategic Reviews - Strategic Reviews provide an in-depth analysis of systemic issues pertaining to a specific industry area or other systemic VET issues.
- Compliance Monitoring Audits - Compliance Monitoring Audits (CMA) allow for the monitoring of compliance with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards as a result of non-compliances identified at previous audits or when seeking removal of a suspension.

Audit Method

There are three audit methods:

- A site audit is a visit to the RTO or applicant's physical premises and allows the Auditor to collect, through interviews and observation, a broad range of evidence to determine the extent to which an RTO or applicant complies with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards.
- A hybrid audit is an audit that is conducted off site but involves interviews and an inspection of the RTO or applicant's physical premises and resources via videoconference.
- A desk audit is an audit that is conducted off site but may involve email or telephone contact with the RTO or applicant. A desk audit may be used where a physical inspection is not required, or the risk has been assessed as low.

The Audit Process

Using a risk assessment approach, TAC determines the:

- Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards to be audited;
- training product/s to be audited;
- audit method;
- delivery sites to be visited as part of the audit;
- training and assessment materials to be examined;
- range of student files to be examined; and
- staff and students to be interviewed.

Audit Principles

The following five principles underpin the way TAC audits are conducted:

Outcomes Focused

For established RTOs the audit considers the deployment of the RTO's processes meet the requirements of the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards.

The RTO's scale, scope, student cohort and the approach to the management of its operations, in particular the systems it has in place to ensure continuous improvement, will also provide evidence of whether the outcomes achieved are sustainable, and whether the RTO's systems are working as intended and meeting requirements. If the RTO is not achieving anticipated outcomes, the audit may focus on processes being used by the RTO to identify and resolve any issues.

For applicants seeking registration, the audit considers whether the applicant has met registration requirements, the planned approach to achieve quality outcomes is systematic; awareness of the VET environment in which it will operate and the planned business practices are achievable and sustainable.

Evidence Based

Audit findings are based on evidence available at audit. The RTO/applicant presents:

- a snapshot of the business such as the scope of delivery, number of students, modes of delivery, staffing, facilities, client groups; and
- outcomes and delivery of nationally recognised training in line with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards, including assessment practices.

The audit may include:

- visual inspection/site visits of the applicant's/RTO's premises;
- review of documentation;
- observations of training delivery and/or assessment;
- interviews with students, staff and other stakeholders;
- tracking the student's journey and records from pre-enrolment to post-completion; and
- discussions with students, staff and end user clients such as employers.

If there is insufficient evidence to make a finding of compliance, the gaps will be explained by:

- restating the 2025 Standards in relation to the evidence provided;
- explaining why the evidence is not sufficient (relating to the rules of evidence).

A finding of non-compliance does not always indicate that the organisation is not complying with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards – occasionally it may be due to an absence of evidence available at the time of the audit.

For new applicants seeking registration, the focus of the audit is on intent, as there will be no deployment of systems or processes to demonstrate compliance. The purpose of the audit is to check and confirm sufficient evidence is presented to demonstrate that the applicant has the capacity to operate effectively as an RTO and the capacity to operate as an RTO immediately following the audit.

Flexible

RTOs vary in size and scope, from a one-person provider delivering units of competency in a niche market in one location, to a large RTO with numerous qualifications on its registration offered state-wide. The diversity of RTOs includes private RTOs, community RTOs, enterprise-based RTOs, industry-based RTOs, TAFEs and schools.

This diversity means that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to evidence of compliance. An audit must consider the different forms of evidence that each RTO may provide to support making a judgement about compliance with the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards.

Fair, Open and Transparent

The RTO is informed about the audit in advance and given the opportunity to provide evidence in a format suited to the organisation's operations.

Audits include:

- an entry meeting between the audit team and the applicant/RTO (for site and hybrid audits);
- identify opportunities for improvement;
- an exit meeting with relevant staff on conclusion of the audit to provide an overview of audit findings and the opportunity to ask questions (for site/hybrid audits); and
- verbal information provided at the exit meeting is a preliminary assessment only, and the official audit report includes more comprehensive information on the audit findings.

5.1.3 TAC Regulatory Activity

During the reporting period the Council continued to regulate the WA VET sector in accordance with the requirements of the VET Act.

Amendments to the *Western Australian Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009* to implement the Registration Standards 2025 (2025 Standards) were approved in October 2025.

To support seamless implementation for TAC registered RTOs, the regulatory amendments included pre-commencement regulations (Regulation 64) that specified:

- a transitional period between 1 October 2025 and 31 December 2025;
- during the transitional period the Prior Regulations including the Standards for RTOs 2015 continued to apply;
- the Prior Regulations including the Standards for RTOs 2015 continued to apply on and from 1 January 2026 where;
 - an RTO submitted an application on or prior to 31 December 2025; and
 - an audit, compliance monitoring audit and/or investigation of an RTO commenced on or prior to 31 December 2025.

In line with the transitional arrangements, assessment of RTO applications and audit activity during the reporting period has occurred in either the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards, depending on when the application was made and/or when an audit or investigation commenced.

Therefore, the data contained in Sections 5.1.4 – 5.1.6 of the Annual Report is predominantly against the Standards for RTOs 2015 and audit activity against the 2025 Standards has not been identified separately to ensure RTO anonymity.

5.1.4 Registration Activity and Applications Endorsed

The Council approved 106 applications which comprised 10 initial registrations, 24 renewals of registration and 72 amendments to registration (see Figure 3). In addition to these applications, a further seven were returned to the applicants and 10 RTOs withdrew their application.

Initial registration applications submitted by RTOs are approved by Council for a period of two years only. Should an RTO wish to continue their registration, the RTO is required to submit a renewal of registration application prior to the two-year period expiring. Following the Council's approval of the renewal application, the RTO is registered for a period of seven years.

Amendment to registration applications are those applications initiated by RTOs to add a training product such as a training package qualification, unit/s of competency and/or accredited course to its scope of registration.



Figure 3. Applications Endorsed

5.1.5 Risk Management of Applications⁴

Applications include instances where an RTO may seek to renew its registration or amend its scope of registration in response to changing business requirements or training products. RTO applications are risk assessed according to the TAC Risk Framework and inform the Council's regulatory response such as a decision to audit or the type of audit. Figure 4 provides an overview of the risk assessments conducted.

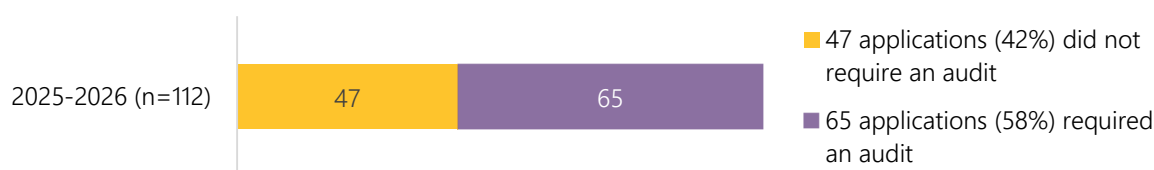


Figure 4. Total Risk Assessments

⁴ The total number of risk assessments, audits conducted, endorsed applications and audit type do not agree. For example, the risk assessment for an amendment to scope or renewal of registration may have occurred in 2024-2025 and was reported in that financial year, but the audit occurred in 2025-2026 and is reported in the 2025-2026 financial year.

5.1.6 Overview of Audits

Audits may involve multiple audit types for individual RTOs. For example, during a 12-month period, an RTO may have submitted several amendments to registration applications related to proposed new delivery areas and be subject to audit for those applications. The Council may also initiate an audit such as a strategic review audit in response to a systemic issue.

The Council audited 62 (37%) of the 168 RTOs registered with the TAC. The 168 RTOs represent the total number of providers registered with the Council over the reporting period and includes RTOs that may have transferred registration to another VET regulator or relinquished registration during the period.

In total, 74 audits were conducted⁵, with a number of applicants/RTOs subject to multiple audits. Of these, eight were initiated by the TAC across seven RTOs and 66 audits initiated by applications were with 59 applicants/RTOs.

Figure 5 provides an overview of audits conducted and includes audits where applications were risk assessed in 2024-2025 and subsequently audited in this reporting period.

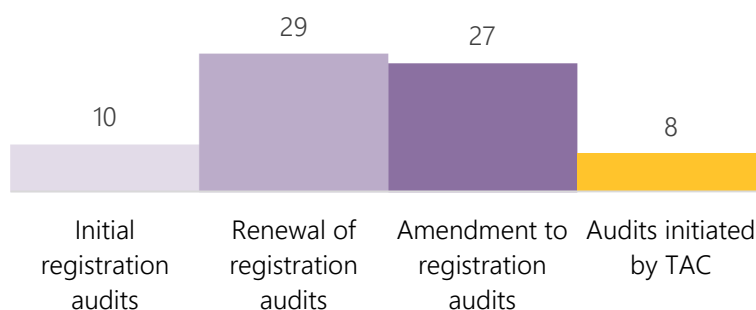


Figure 5. Overview of audits conducted

The low number of audits initiated by the TAC in 2025-2026 was due to planned audits from the TAC Regulatory Strategy 2023-2025 (Regulatory Strategy) being largely completed in the previous financial year.

Audits by Method

To determine an appropriate regulatory response, the Council uses the Regulatory Strategy and the outcome of the application risk assessment process. The response could result in a desktop, site or hybrid audit being conducted with the applicant or RTO, as depicted in Figure 6.

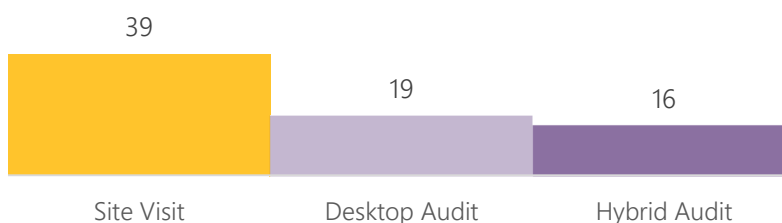


Figure 6. Total Number of Audits by Method

⁵ Indicates the number of audits that commenced but may not have been finalised. Due to this, the total number of audits conducted will not be the same as the number of audits with outcomes reported on pages 16-19

Audit Outcomes

The level of compliance identified at audit is considered by Council in line with established processes and is based on the extent to which the evidence reviewed demonstrates compliance with the audited Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards. The overall finding is either compliant or non-compliant.

Where the overall finding is non-compliant, a level of non-compliance is assigned and can include minor; significant; critical; or critical (risk of injury or death) depending on the level of impact on students and/or consumers of goods and services produced in the training environment or the current (or future) workplace.

Non-Compliance/s and Regulatory Responses

If an applicant/RTO is non-compliant at an audit there are a number of regulatory responses open to the Council to ensure the non-compliance/s are rectified. Targeted and proportionate responses are designed to provide the RTO with an opportunity to address the non-compliance and are determined based on the type and seriousness of the non-compliance and risk level. For example, the most common regulatory response is to provide the applicant/RTO with 20 working days (Standards for RTOs 2015) or 30 working days (2025 Standards) to provide evidence of rectification of the non-compliance. The evidence is reviewed by an auditor to ensure compliance has been achieved.

In instances the level of non-compliance is critical or critical (risk of injury or death) and there are significant risks to students or industry, the Council may consider minimal or no rectification timeframes, and/or sanctions on the registration of the RTO such as conditions, suspension or cancellation of registration.

Figure 7 highlights levels of compliance at main audit. Of the 74 main audits conducted, 64 audits were completed (Figure 8) and 10 remained in progress as at 30 June 2026.

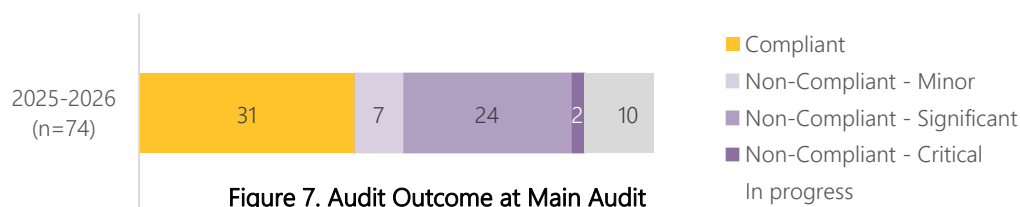


Figure 7. Audit Outcome at Main Audit

RTOs must demonstrate compliance with the Standards to continue to operate within the Western Australian VET sector.

Compliance at Main Audit

Compliance levels at main audit were 48% compliance for all audits conducted during the reporting period (Figure 8⁶).

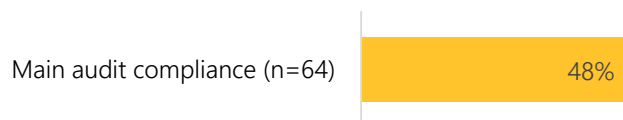


Figure 8. Compliance Level at Main Audit

⁶ 'in progress' audits were excluded when calculating the overall percentage of compliance at main audit, as compliance outcomes were unknown at the time of the reporting period.

The level of non-compliance at main audit should be viewed in context. Audits generally assess multiple training products against many clauses from the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards.

If an RTO is found non-compliant against one clause/Standard for one training product, this will result in the overall audit outcome being recorded as non-compliant. Where non-compliances are identified at audit, the application is not approved by Council unless compliance has been achieved following rectification.

Analysis of audit outcomes indicate that assessment practices had the highest level of non-compliance at main audit across all clauses of the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards. Due to the complex and technical nature of the assessment requirements, the non-compliances identified at audit are extremely varied. Examples of non-compliances include deficiencies in the:

- technical mapping of learning and assessment tools with training product requirements;
- observation checklists;
- assessment of foundation skills; and
- overly complex mapping.

During the reporting period, there was no evidence of fraudulent assessment practices found at audit.

Levels of non-compliance at audit inform the TAC Education Program, ongoing monitoring of RTOs and the biennial TAC Regulatory Strategy which responds to current and emerging risks in the VET sector. As the highest levels of non-compliance at main audit were in assessment practices, the Council continued to focus on assessment in its regulatory responses and in the TAC Education Program. For example, during the period the Council conducted a webinar focused on assessment practice and published guidance materials related to making the assessment judgement, assessment validation, awarding credit and recognition of prior learning.

Compliance at Rectification

At the conclusion of an audit, the RTO receives an audit report that forms a detailed record of the scope, evidence and findings of the audit. Where non-compliance/s are identified, TAC may grant the provider the opportunity to provide additional evidence within a specified timeline to demonstrate compliance. In line with TAC's regulatory approach, depending on the type and seriousness of the non-compliance/s and risk, the RTO is generally provided with 20 days for rectification against the Standards for RTOs 2015 and 30 days for rectification against the 2025 Standards.

Where rectification timelines are provided, the applicant/RTO is required to provide evidence demonstrating how the identified non-compliances have been addressed, which is then reviewed by an auditor.

Of the non-compliant main audits, compliance at evidence review was 96% as shown in Figure 9. The remaining non-compliant RTO (4%) had their registration suspended.



Figure 9. Compliance Level at Evidence Review

Overview of audits completed⁷

Initial registration audits

Initial registration audits are conducted for new RTO applications. A training provider can only commence delivery in nationally recognised training upon compliance and Council endorsement of the application.

Initial registration audits accounted for 9 out of 64 audits (14%), of which:

- two audits were compliant at main audit (22%);
- six audits that were non-compliant at main audit achieved compliance upon rectification (67%); and
- one application for initial registration was withdrawn by the applicant (11%).

Where non-compliances are identified, there is no impact on students or industry, as delivery has not occurred prior to endorsement of the application by the Council.

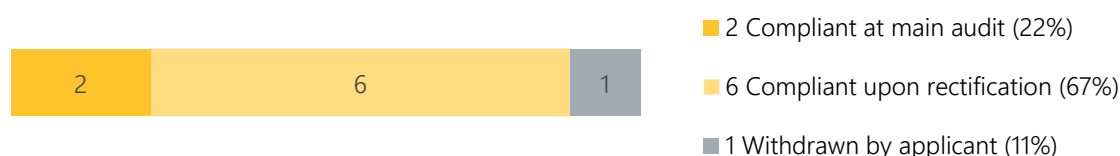


Figure 10. Initial Registration Audits

Amendment to registration audits

Amendment to registration applications are those initiated by RTOs to add a training product such as a training package qualification, unit/s of competency and/or accredited courses to their scope of registration.

Amendment to registration audits accounted for 24 of the 64 audits conducted (38%), of which:

- 12 audits were compliant at main audit (50%);
- eight that were non-compliant at main audit achieved compliance upon rectification (33%);
- two applications for amendment to registration were withdrawn by the applicants (8%); and
- two in progress during rectification (evidence review) (8%) at 30 June 2026.

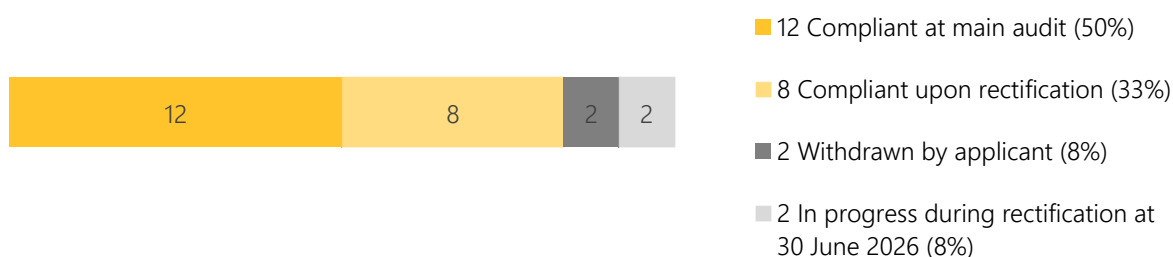


Figure 11. Amendment to Registration Audits

If an amendment to registration audit is required, RTOs can only commence delivery of the new training product/s if compliance has been achieved against the Standards and the application is subsequently endorsed by the Council. There is no impact on students or industry as delivery has not occurred prior to endorsement of the application by the Council.

⁷ Indicates the number of main audits completed. Due to this, the total number of audits completed will not be the same as the number of audits conducted on page 16.

Renewal of registration audits

Should an RTO wish to continue its registration, the RTO is required to submit a renewal of registration application at least three months prior to the end of the registration period. Following the Council's approval of the renewal application, the RTO is registered for up to a period of seven years.

Renewal of registration audits accounted for 23 of the 64 audits conducted (36%), of which:

- ten audits were compliant at main audit (43%);
- nine that were non-compliant at main audit achieved compliance upon rectification (39%);
- three audits remained in progress (13%) at 30 June 2026; and
- one RTO had their registration suspended (4%).

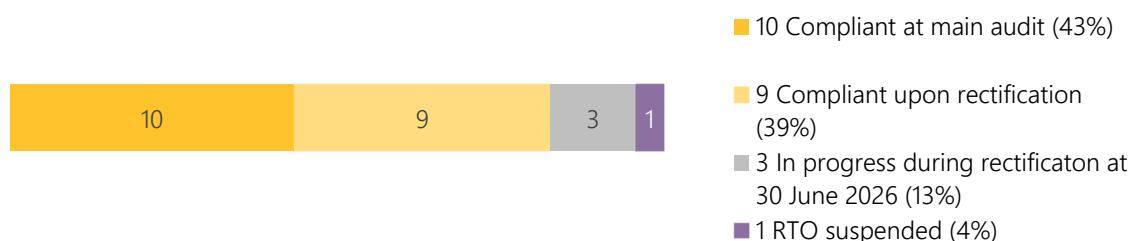


Figure 12. Renewal of Registration Audits

For an RTO to re-register and continue training delivery, the RTO must be able to demonstrate compliance against the Standards where the risk assessment determines an audit is required.

Audits initiated by TAC

Audits initiated and endorsed by Council are audits that respond to identified provider or systemic risk. These audits include monitoring, compliance monitoring, strategic review audits and complaint audits.

These audits may have minimal disruption to an RTO's operations unless non-compliances exist and rectification and/or further regulatory action is required.

Audits initiated by TAC accounted for 8 of the 64 audits (13%). Of the eight audits:

- seven audits, including monitoring audits, complaint audits and compliance monitoring audits to target individual provider risk, were compliant at main audit (88%); and
- the one non-compliant at main audit achieved compliance upon rectification (12%).



Figure 13. Audits Initiated by TAC

5.1.7 Accredited Courses

The Council accredits courses in line with the requirements of the AQTF2021 Standards for Accredited Courses to meet training needs not addressed in training packages.

Through its accreditation function, the Council accredits locally developed courses, driven by local needs that meet new industry requirements, or State Government priorities such as employment and training initiatives.

As at 30 June 2026, 73 accredited courses were registered with the TAC.

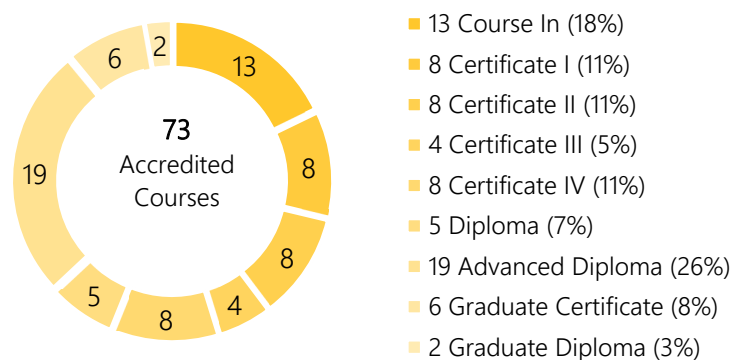


Figure 14. Accredited Courses

During the reporting period, the Council considered and approved 39 course accreditation applications. The number of applications for re-accreditation varies based on the cyclic nature of course accreditation periods. Figure 15 provides an overview of the accredited courses activity over the period.

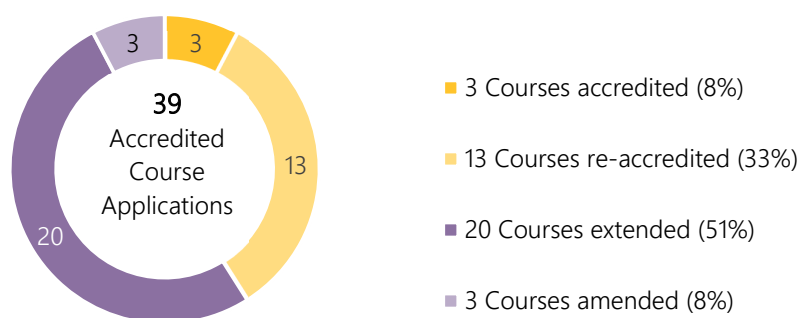


Figure 15. Accredited Courses Activity

Fourteen accredited courses expired over the period.

Accreditation reviews are undertaken when a course owner applies for course accreditation, course re-accreditation or course amendment.

Fifteen accreditation reviews were completed, of which seven were compliant at main accreditation review. Of the eight non-compliant applications, six demonstrated compliance following a rectification period and two were progressing rectification at 30 June 2026. Figure 16 sets out the outcome of each accreditation review undertaken against the AQTF2021 Standards for Accredited Courses.

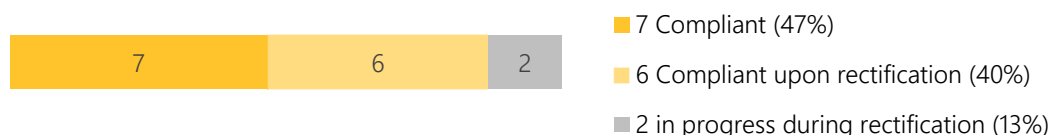


Figure 16 Accreditation Reviews

During the period, the Council approved new Course Accreditation Guides, Course Accreditation Application Forms and templates which:

- incorporate the new qualification type in the Australian Qualifications Framework, the Vocational Degree;
- incorporate the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Occupational Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA) which replaced the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO); and
- more fully reflect the requirements for course owners to seek industry support for the accredited course and in the development of the course; and that where possible, WA industry involvement and support is provided.

5.1.8 Complaints Management

Complaints management is an integral component of the TAC Risk Framework. The data collected from complaints informs areas of risk, appropriate regulatory responses and provides useful insight into issues experienced by stakeholders.

The VET Act and the Standards for VET Regulators 2015 require that the Council manage and respond to stakeholder complaints. The Council can only investigate complaints if they relate to the ongoing compliance of RTOs with the Standards and the VET Act. Monthly complaint reports are provided to Council specifying the nature and number of complaints received, closed and outcomes.

A closed complaint enquiry may include:

- 'not in jurisdiction' as the elements of the complaint/enquiry relate to an RTO registered with another VET regulator; or the elements are not related to the Standards. Non-jurisdictional issues are referred to other agencies, as appropriate; and
- a complaint that has not yet been lodged with the relevant TAC registered RTO in the first instance. Complainants are advised to lodge their complaint with the RTO and to re-contact TAC in the event they are not satisfied with the outcome, or the complaint remains unresolved.

A verified complaint refers to non-compliances identified following a complaint investigation.

During the period the Council's complaints management included 29 closed complaint enquiries, of these 24 were not in jurisdiction or were considered enquiries only and five were formalised as a complaint (in jurisdiction). Five complaints were investigated, of which none were substantiated (refer to Figure 17).

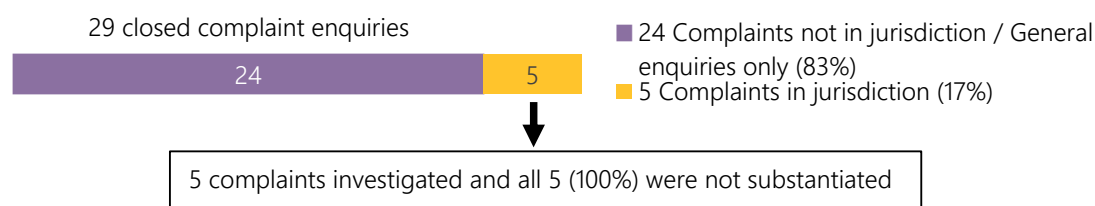


Figure 17 Complaint Enquiries

5.1.9 Appeals of Council Decisions

Under the requirements of Section 58G of the VET Act, appeals against Council decisions must be lodged with the State Training Board (STB) in line with its established processes.

During the reporting period the Council, in line with the Standards and the VET Act, made a decision to reject a renewal of registration application. As a result, one appeal was lodged with the STB in June 2026. At the time of reporting, the appeal had not been finalised.

5.1.10 Annual Declaration on Compliance

RTOs are required to provide the Council with an Annual Declaration on Compliance. In submitting an Annual Declaration, the RTO's legally responsible person is confirming that the RTO:

- systematically monitors and evaluates training and assessment strategies and practices; and
- uses the outcomes of monitoring and evaluation to inform improvements in organisational and educational practice.

The declaration is in relation to whether the RTO:

- currently meets the requirements of the Standards for RTOs 2015/2025 Standards across its scope of registration and if not, action taken or planned to address the non-compliance; and
- has met the requirements of the Standards for RTOs 2015/2025 Standards for all Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) certification documentation issued in the last financial year.

All RTOs that were required to submit a 2025-2026 Annual Declaration on Compliance submitted their declaration for the financial year.

5.1.11 Replacement of Equivalent Training Products

Equivalent training products are automatically added to an RTO's scope of registration without requiring an application or fee payment.

During the 2025-2026 period, 126 training products were processed by the Council through the replacement of equivalent training products, an increase from the 21 processed in the 2024-2025 period. The number of training products processed is determined by the number of equivalent training products submitted to and endorsed by Skills Ministers during the period.

5.1.12 Extension to Transition Periods for Training Products

The requirements for the transition period for training products are included in the:

- Standards for RTOs 2015 - Clause 1.26 which states the time allowed for RTOs to transition to new training products; and
- 2025 Standards - Compliance Standard 14.

In line with the Standards, the Council may modify the transition period for training products. During the period, no applications for modification to transition periods were received by the Council.

5.2 PRIORITY 2: Enable the Effective Operation of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)

- Consistent, fair and transparent processes are applied
- RTOs have access to quality education services and resources

5.2.1 Education Program Initiatives

The Council is a key contributor to RTO professional development in Western Australia. The design of the 2025-2026 TAC Education Program (the Education Program) and key topics were informed by audit outcomes, the biennial RTO and stakeholder surveys, workshop participant feedback and outcomes from the TAC RTO pilot programs that supported the introduction of the 2025 Standards.

The Education Program was a major focus for the Council and incorporated key strategies such as the Council's Online Guidance Hub which was supplemented by key resources to support RTO preparedness and transition to the 2025 Standards.

The Council continued to provide educative services to stakeholders via a suite of workshops, guidance materials and instructional video clips comprising:



Three webinars with topics on assessment, VET student support and the course accreditation process.



One workshop to the Secondary School sector on VET Risk, Assurance and Leadership Oversight.



Four regional road shows delivered to TAC regulated RTOs in Albany, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Broome.



Ten fact sheets were updated and/or developed to align with the 2025 Standards including Assessing in the Workplace, Assessment and Assessment Judgement, Assessment Validation, Awarding Credit, Recognition of Prior Learning, VET Student Support – Information, Enrolment and Suitability of Training Products and Transition of Training Products.



Four instructional videos were developed to assist organisations and RTOs to navigate TAC's processes and systems.



The Snapshot of Compliance Trends report was published, which provides RTOs with a point-in-time insight into the quality of training and assessment services in the WA VET sector.

The Education Program was highly successful, with 499 participants attending workshops either in person or online. During the 12-month period, attendance was prioritised for TAC-regulated RTOs to support preparation for the implementation of the 2025 Standards. Stakeholder feedback confirmed the Education Program is effective in increasing capability and understanding in meeting the requirements of the 2025 Standards.

The Education Program will continue to be a significant focus for the Council in the next financial year to support stakeholders with the implementation of the 2025 Standards, RTO compliance obligations and quality training outcomes.

Online Guidance Hub

The launch of the TAC Registration Standards 2025 Hub on the Council's website was a key mechanism to support RTOs in their transition to the 2025 Standards and serves as a reliable 'source of truth' for WA RTOs.

Aligned with the Commonwealth Government's Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) Policy Guidance document, the Hub offers clear and accessible information to all stakeholders.

TAC regularly updates the Hub with fact sheets, webinars, FAQs and podcasts, ensuring RTOs have access to the most current information to assist with implementation and preparedness.

5.2.2 Communication Strategies

The Council actively provides information to RTOs and stakeholders to promote and support the delivery of quality services in the sector.

TAC Website

The website remains the Council's primary communication portal and is the most frequently accessed information tool. It provides access to the RTO Portal, registration and course accreditation application forms, complaints handling information and forms, Council policies, published newsletters, the education program calendar and an extensive selection of education and guidance material.

The website had 282,176 page views during this period, with the most frequently visited pages relating to announcements, newsletter subscription, fact sheets, the TAC Registration Standards 2025 Hub and records requests.

TAC Newsletters

Council produces regular newsletters including the *TAC Update* and *TAC Special Bulletin*, as a key mechanism to communicate timely information to stakeholders. Newsletters contain information on Council initiatives and policy matters, updates on State and National VET policy and regulatory matters, reminders about mandatory RTO reporting requirements and the Education Program. As at 30 June 2026, the *TAC Update* had 4,008 subscribers.

During the period, the Council published and distributed:

- 12 TAC Updates;
- 6 TAC Special Bulletins; and
- 1 Announcement.

Social Media

During the year, the Council increased its digital content via its YouTube channel, LinkedIn account and podcasts. Analysis of activity in social media reported the:

- YouTube channel currently has 879 subscribers. In the reporting period, YouTube content received 14,339 views and seven new videos were published;
- LinkedIn account continues to grow its membership and currently reaches out to 997 followers; and
- Podcast series 'TAC Talks' were downloaded 651 times through various podcast apps and watched 1,418 times on YouTube during the reporting period.

RTO Portal

The Council's online RTO Portal provides RTOs with direct access to information linked to their registration including their RTO contact details and scope of delivery; and capacity to submit applications and track progress through the system.

Enhancements to the TAC RTO Portal were undertaken in the period, to ensure alignment with the requirements of the 2025 Standards.

Western Australian Training Awards

The Council is proud to continue its sponsorship of the WA Trainer of the Year category in the Western Australian Training Awards, reinforcing its commitment under the VET Act to support high-quality training and assessment across the sector.

5.2.3 Review of Council Policies and Operations

The Secretariat maintains a quality system that supports the Council's functions as a VET regulator and ensures compliance with a range of State and National requirements. The Council monitors the implementation of operational processes and procedures on an ongoing basis with refinements made as and when required.

A review of the TAC Quality System commenced during the period.

To reflect regulatory amendments and the implementation of the 2025 Standards, the following TAC policies and procedures were reviewed and approved by Council:

- Fit and Proper Person Policy and the Fit and Proper Person Declaration;
- RTO Application Form Guides and RTO Self-Assessment Tools;
- Dispute of Audit Findings Policy;
- Application of Sanctions Policy;
- Cancellation of an Approved VET Qualification Policy;
- Rectification Timeframes for RTO non-compliance against the 2025 Standards;
- TAC Course Accreditation Guides, Course Accreditation Application Forms and templates;
- TAC Procedures for Training Provider Attendance at a TAC Meeting; and
- TAC Service Standards.

The Secretariat continues to work with the Council to progress further policy updates.

5.2.4 RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers

The primary role of RTO Auditors is to undertake audits of RTOs and report on compliance against the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards.

Accreditation Reviewers assess submissions for course accreditation to ensure they meet the requirements of the AQTF2021 Standards for Accredited Courses.

RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers appointed to the panel are listed in Table 1.

Panel	Name	Organisation
RTO Auditors	Janelle Dawson	Janelle Dawson Pty Ltd
	Russell Docking	Skills Resource Management Systems Pty Ltd
	Sheevaun Gallacher	SG Consulting Pty Ltd
	Paul Hardman	Vocational Training and Skills Solutions
	Cherrie Hawke	Torque Holdings Pty Ltd
	Claire Werner	The Meyvn Group
Accreditation Reviewers	Russell Docking	Skills Resource Management Systems Pty Ltd
	Paul Hardman	Vocational Training and Skills Solutions
	Cherrie Hawke	Torque Holdings Pty Ltd

Table 1. Panel of RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers

Arrangements for RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers

The Council's RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers are appointed through a public tender process undertaken by the Department of Training and Workforce Development. The RTO Auditor and Accreditation Reviewer Panels commenced on 1 July 2020 and were appointed for a one-year period with four, one-year extension options. In 2024, the panel was granted a beyond-term extension until 30 June 2026 and an extension past the final expiry date was granted to 31 August 2026.

A public tender for the Council's RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewer Panel and the introduction of a new panel for the TAC Education Program was advertised in April 2026. The new contract is planned to commence in the 2026-2027 financial year.

The Department, through the Secretariat, implements a performance management model for contractors appointed to the panels.

To ensure consistency in the approach to RTO audits and reviews of course accreditation applications, the Secretariat facilitates moderation forums for contracted RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers. The forums provide:

- an important quality assurance mechanism;
- support consistency in audit practice and assessment of provider compliance; and
- provide Auditors and Reviewers with updates on State/National VET policy and regulatory developments.

During the reporting period, four RTO Auditor moderation forums were held and one workshop was delivered to RTO Auditors and Accreditation Reviewers on developments in relation to the 2025 Standards.

5.2.5 FEES AND CHARGES

In Western Australia, fees and charges apply for the registration of training providers and accreditation of VET courses with the Council and are published on the Council's website.

The approved schedule of TAC fees and charges as at 30 June 2026 are available at:

- [Training Accreditation Council Schedule of Fees](https://www.wa.gov.au/service/education-and-training/vocational-education/training-accreditation-council-schedule-of-fees)⁸; and
- [Course Accreditation application fees](https://www.wa.gov.au/service/education-and-training/vocational-education/course-accreditation-application-fees)⁹.

⁸ <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/education-and-training/vocational-education/training-accreditation-council-schedule-of-fees>

⁹ <https://www.wa.gov.au/service/education-and-training/vocational-education/course-accreditation-application-fees>

5.3 PRIORITY 3: Lead the Continuous Improvement of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) Sector

- Sector-wide risks are identified and effectively managed

The Council publishes a biennial Regulatory Strategy which informs stakeholders about the priorities the Council has identified as posing risks to the quality of VET and the planned regulatory action to monitor and minimise those risks. The Strategy also serves as a mechanism to engage and motivate RTOs to achieve quality VET outcomes for Western Australia through compliance and educational initiatives.

During the reporting period, the Council undertook regulatory responses against two Regulatory Strategies detailed below.

5.3.1 Focus on Quality: TAC Regulatory Strategy 2023-2025

In August 2023, the Council endorsed a two-year strategy titled [Focus on Quality: TAC Regulatory Strategy 2023-2025](#)¹⁰ (the 2023 – 2025 Strategy). The Strategy identified:

- clauses from the Standards for RTOs 2015;
- training products deemed high risk;
- the increase in renewal of registration audits over the period; and
- the planned introduction of 2025 Standards.

The Strategy originally applied for a period of two years, however Council endorsed an extension of the Strategy to 31 December 2025 to align to the implementation of the 2025 Standards. The information provided below is based on regulatory activities for the 2023 – 2025 Strategy in the period 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2025.

Systemic Issues Linked to the Standards for RTOs 2015

The Strategy focused on several clauses in the Standards for RTOs 2015.

The compliance levels provided below are based on results at main audit. If an applicant/RTO is non-compliant at audit there are a number of regulatory responses open to the Council to ensure non-compliances are rectified. The responses are designed to be targeted and proportionate and provide the RTO with the opportunity to address the non-compliance depending on the type and seriousness of the non-compliance and risk level. For example, the most common regulatory response is to provide the applicant/RTO with 20 working days to provide evidence of rectification of the non-compliance. The evidence is reviewed by an auditor to ensure compliance has been achieved.

Compliance levels at main audit in the specified clauses include:

- Meeting the requirements of the training product (Clauses 1.1 and 1.2): Of the 195 instances¹¹ where the clauses were audited during the period - on average, there was 82% compliance at main audit.
- Sufficient Resources (Clause 1.3) ensures that an RTO has sufficient trainers and assessors, educational and support services, learning resources, and facilities and equipment to deliver

¹⁰ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/training-accreditation-council-regulatory-strategy-2023-2025>

¹¹ 'instances' refers to the number of times the clause is reviewed across the scope of audits. In most cases, multiple training products are reviewed at audit which results in Standard 1 clauses being assessed multiple times.

training and assessment services. Of the 98 instances where the clause was audited, 88% were compliant at main audit.

- Assessment System (Clauses 1.8 and 1.12) includes assessment strategies such as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and is an integral component of the VET system. An RTO issues certification on the premise that the assessed learner has met relevant training requirements. Of the 174 instances where Clauses 1.8 and 1.12 were audited, 51% compliance was achieved for Clause 1.8 and 100% compliance was achieved for Clause 1.12 at main audit.
 - Main audit outcomes for Clause 1.8 are the lowest levels of compliance for all clauses audited.
 - Due to the complex and technical nature of the assessment requirements, the non-compliances identified at audit are extremely varied. Examples of non-compliances include deficiencies in:
 - technical mapping of learning and assessment tools with training product requirements;
 - observation checklists;
 - assessment of foundation skills; or
 - overly complex mapping.
 - During the reporting period, there was no evidence of fraudulent assessment practices at audit.
 - These results support Council's continued focus on assessment practices by RTOs as the primary measure of integrity and quality in VET.
- Trainer and Assessor Competencies (Clauses 1.13 – 1.16) focus on the importance of ensuring a highly skilled VET workforce and requires trainers and assessors to be vocationally competent and hold training and assessment credentials when undertaking delivery and/or assessments of nationally recognised training. Of the 306 instances where Clauses 1.13-1.16 were audited, 95% compliance was achieved at main audit.

Systemic Risks linked to 'at risk' Training Products

The Strategy included monitoring audits of RTOs with the following training products on their scope of registration:

- *CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care* and *CHC50121 Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care*; and
- CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry (known as the White Card unit).

Monitoring audits for these products were finalised in the 2024–2025 financial year. However, between 1 July and 31 December 2025, two RTOs submitted applications to add the above training products to their scope of registration and both were found non-compliant at main audit. Both RTOs were compliant following rectification and evidence review.

To address regulatory issues and RTO practices that may impact quality training and assessment outcomes for students and industry, the Council is committed to working collaboratively with the industry regulator and continues to monitor RTO delivery of the training products.

The Strategy also specified monitoring of RTOs delivering identified 'at risk' training products which included:

- *CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support*
- RIIWHS202E Enter and work in confined spaces
- RIIWHS204E Work safely at heights
- *SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality*
- *TAE40122 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment*

RTOs were required to undergo an audit when applying to add these training products to either their scope of registration or a renewal of registration application.

During the period:

- three RTOs submitted applications to add one or more of the training products to their scope of registration. Three audits were completed of which one was compliant at main audit and two were compliant following rectification and evidence review; and
- four RTOs were also subject to renewal of registration audits for one or more of the above training products, of which two were compliant at main audit and two were compliant following rectification and evidence review.

5.3.2 TAC Regulatory Strategy 1 January 2026-30 June 2027

A key element of TAC's regulatory approach is the ongoing review of sector risks and during the period the Council endorsed the new [Focus on Quality: TAC Regulatory Strategy 1 January 2026–30 June 2027](#)¹² (the 2026-2027 Strategy).

The 2026-2027 Strategy was informed by research, data analysis and extensive consultation with industry, government and community stakeholders. It identifies current and emerging risks to quality and planned regulatory responses to minimise those risks. The 2026-2027 Strategy focuses on regulatory activities to support the introduction of the 2025 Standards, promote quality training outcomes and compliance in priority risk areas, training products and sector monitoring.

The training products identified include:

- **CPCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry**
Only one application to add this unit of competency was submitted and the associated audit was in progress as at 30 June 2026. Further audits are planned for 2027.
- **Early Childhood Education and Care Qualifications**
There were no applications to add or renewal of registration applications received that included the *CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care* and/or *CHC50125 Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care* to the scope of registration.
- **Units of competency linked to Approved WHS Risk Management Units for Statutory Positions** (selected from either the Business Services (BSB) Training Package or the Resources and Infrastructure (RII) Training Package).

One application to add a unit of competency was submitted and the associated audit was in progress as at 30 June 2026.

Stakeholder consultations have been undertaken throughout the period to inform the design and scope of the strategic industry audits planned for 2027.

- **Units of Competency that lead to High Risk Work Licences (HRWLs)**
One application to add TLILIC0040 Licence to operate a non-slewing mobile crane (greater than 3 tonnes capacity) was submitted and the associated audit was in progress as at 30 June 2026.

Stakeholder consultations have been undertaken throughout the period to inform the design and scope of the strategic industry audits planned for 2027.

¹² <https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2026-01/tac-regulatory-strategy-2026-2027-v1.25.pdf>

During 2026-2027, in line with the transition arrangements specified in the VET Regulations, audits were conducted under either the Standards for RTOs 2015 or the 2025 Standards depending on when the application was submitted. The compliance levels for audits conducted against the Standards for RTOs 2015 and the 2025 Standards are reported below.

Standards for RTOs 2015

Compliance at main audit in the Standards for RTOs 2015 that most closely align to the 2025 Standards identified in the 2026 – 2027 Strategy.

The compliance levels provided below are based on results at main audit. If an applicant/RTO is non-compliant at audit there are a number of regulatory responses open to the Council to ensure non-compliances are rectified. The responses are designed to be targeted and proportionate and provide the RTO with the opportunity to address the non-compliance depending on the type and seriousness of the non-compliance and risk level. For example, the most common regulatory response is to provide the applicant/RTO with 20 working days to provide evidence of rectification of the non-compliance. The evidence is reviewed by an auditor to ensure compliance has been achieved.

Compliance levels at main audit in the specified clauses include:

- **Meeting the requirements of the Training Product:**
 - Clauses 1.1 and 1.2 relate to RTO's training and assessment meeting training package requirements and support learners to achieve competency.
 - There were 63 instances where Clause 1.1 and Clause 1.2 were audited during the period, compliance levels were:
 - Clause 1.1 – 45% compliance for 31 instances.
 - Clause 1.2 – 56% compliance for 32 instances.
- **Sufficient Resources:**
 - Clause 1.3 ensures that an RTO has sufficient trainers and assessors, educational and support services, learning resources and facilities and equipment to deliver training and assessment services.
 - Of the 31 instances where the clause was audited 100% were compliant at main audit.
- **Assessment System:**
 - Clauses 1.8 and 1.12 includes assessment strategies such as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and is an integral component of the VET system. An RTO issues certification on the premise that the assessed learner has met relevant training requirements.
 - There were 60 instances where Clauses 1.8 and 1.12 were audited:
 - Clause 1.8 – 46% compliance for 35 instances.
 - Clause 1.12 – 100% compliance for 25 instances.
- **Trainer and Assessor Competencies:**
 - Clauses 1.13 – 1.16 focus on the importance of ensuring a highly skilled VET workforce and requires trainers and assessors to be vocationally competent and hold training and assessment credentials when undertaking delivery and/or assessments of nationally recognised training.
 - Of the 94 instances where Clauses 1.13-1.16 were audited:
 - Clause 1.13 – 94% compliance for 31 instances.
 - Clause 1.14 – 97% compliance for 31 instances.
 - Clause 1.15 – 100% compliance for 1 instance.
 - Clause 1.16 – 55% compliance for 31 instances.

- **Processes Prior to Enrolment of Learners:**

- Clauses 5.1 and 5.2 relate to the RTO ensuring they provide prospective learners with appropriate training advice and clear, accurate information before enrolment or training commencement to support informed decisions and ensure the training meets their needs and existing competencies.
- Of the 13 instances where the clauses were audited:
 - Clause 5.1 – 75% compliance for 8 instances.
 - Clause 5.2 – 60% compliance for 5 instances.

2025 Standards

The 2026-2027 Strategy focused on several Outcome Standards and one Compliance Standard in the 2025 Standards.

The compliance levels provided below are based on results at main audit. If an applicant/RTO is non-compliant at audit there are a number of regulatory responses open to the Council to ensure non-compliances are rectified. The responses are designed to be targeted and proportionate and provide the RTO with the opportunity to address the non-compliance depending on the type and seriousness of the non-compliance and risk level. For example, the most common regulatory response is to provide the applicant/RTO with 30 working days to provide evidence of rectification of the non-compliance. The evidence is reviewed by an auditor to ensure compliance has been achieved.

Compliance levels at main audit in the specified Standards include:

- **Training and Assessment:** Outcome Standards 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6 and 1.8 which relate to ensuring VET programs provide high-quality training, fair and valid assessment, recognition of prior learning and appropriate resources and facilities so students can successfully achieve competency and training outcomes. Of the 90 instances where these Outcome Standards were audited, compliance levels at main audit were:
 - Outcome Standard 1.1 – 67% compliance for 21 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 1.3 – 57% compliance for 21 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 1.4 – 52% compliance for 21 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 1.6 – 100% compliance for 9 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 1.8 – 89% compliance for 18 instances.
- **VET Student Support:** Outcome Standards 2.1 and 2.2 relate to ensuring VET students receive clear and accurate information, appropriate pre-enrolment advice and guidance to help them choose a training product that aligns with their skills, competencies and learning needs. Of the 14 instances where these Outcome Standards were audited, compliance levels at main audit included:
 - Outcome Standard 2.1 – 86% compliance for 7 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 2.2 – 86% compliance for 7 instances.
- **VET Workforce:** Outcome Standards 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 relate to ensuring that training and assessment are delivered by a suitably qualified, industry-current and effectively-managed workforce that can support high-quality student outcomes. Of the 43 instances where these Outcome Standards were audited, compliance levels at main audit were:
 - Outcome Standard 3.1 – 86% compliance for 7 instances.
 - Outcome Standard 3.2 – 67% compliance for 18 instances
 - Outcome Standard 3.3 – 67% compliance for 18 instances

- Governance: Outcome Standards 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 relate to ensuring effective leadership, clear roles and responsibilities, risk management and continuous monitoring and improvement to support quality VET service delivery and organisational performance. Of the 11 instances where these Outcome Standards were audited, compliance levels at main audit were:
 - Outcome standard 4.2 – 100% compliance for 3 instances.
 - Outcome standard 4.3 – 75% compliance for 4 instances.
 - Outcome standard 4.4 – 75% compliance for 4 instances.
- Third Party arrangements: Compliance Standard 17 relates to ensuring that services delivered on behalf of an RTO are governed by formal written agreements, subject to provider oversight and quality monitoring, and compliant with regulatory reporting and accountability requirements. Of the one instance where this Compliance Standard was audited, 100% compliance at main audit was achieved.

Sector Monitoring of RTOs (contained within both Strategies)

During the period, the Council monitored RTOs that had no or minimal regulatory assessment by the Council in the past three years or more.

Six RTOs were audited in the period, with two audits compliant, two audits non-compliant and two audits in progress. For the non-compliant audits, one was in progress during rectification as at 30 June 2026 and the other was compliant upon rectification.

5.3.3 Continuous Improvement - Feedback from RTOs and Stakeholders

The Standards for VET Regulators 2015 require VET regulators to evaluate and improve their regulatory performance in regulating RTOs and accrediting courses. The Council values feedback from all stakeholders to enhance its regulatory services and functions and inform planning, policies and processes.

Dispute of Audit Findings

On receipt of an audit report, applicants/RTOs may consider that the audit findings contained in the report are not an accurate reflection of what was presented at audit. Applicants/RTOs are able to dispute the audit findings provided they do so within five working days of receipt of the audit report.

Applicants/RTOs are encouraged to seek clarification from the Auditor regarding the audit findings. This clarification may remove any confusion or misunderstandings. If the clarification has not provided a resolution, a dispute can then be lodged.

During the period, no disputes were lodged with the TAC.

Feedback from RTOs/Course Owners following Audit

The Council collects feedback from RTOs and Course Owners via audit surveys following completion of desk, hybrid and site audits and accreditation reviews. This feedback is incorporated into the Council's continuous improvement processes. During the period, 29 responses were received, noting that responses are voluntary.

Satisfaction with overall audit	100% satisfied
Information provided pre-audit and during met RTOs' needs	100% agree
Audit experience added value to RTO's business	100% agree

Figure 18. RTO/Course Owner Feedback Post Audit

5.4 PRIORITY 4: APPLY GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ACT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

- Independent and effective governance processes are maintained

5.4.1 Council Membership 2025-2026

Membership of the Council complied with the requirements of the VET Act during the reporting period, with seven members appointed by the responsible Minister. In June 2026, Keryn Carter and Barbara-Anne Brown's terms of appointment expired. Barbara-Anne Brown was re-appointed as a member of the Council from 29 June 2026 and Dr Sharon Ivey was appointed a member of the Council, also from 29 June 2026.

5.4.2 Operations of the Council

During the reporting period the Council was supported by the Department through the services of the Secretariat. In supporting the Council, the Secretariat's key roles included:

- implementing the Council's Strategic Plan and Risk Framework, the 2023 – 2025 Strategy, the 2026 – 2027 Strategy and Education Program;
- implementing the 2025 Standards and alignment of Council policies, processes and systems;
- processing applications for the registration and renewal of training providers, the variation of training provider scope and accreditation of courses for consideration by the Council; and
- providing high level advice on State and national VET regulatory and policy matters.

The Council has an established Code of Conduct, developed in line with the Public Sector Commission's (PSC) Good Governance for Western Australian Boards and Committees. The Code of Conduct provides guidance about ethical conduct, public duties, legal responsibilities and outlines the Council's approach to managing actual or perceived conflicts of interest. All members are required to abide by the Code of Conduct.

During 2025 – 2026, in line with the Public Sector Commissioner's instructions, the Council continued to implement the Culture of Integrity Training course for all members appointed to the Council. The course is included as part of the induction process for all new Council members.

During the reporting period any conflicts were managed in line with the Council's established process.

Council meetings are held monthly to consider registration and accreditation applications, regulatory matters and key strategies to progress the work of the Council. The Council formally held 12 meetings over the 12 months to 30 June 2026. The Council also considers matters 'out of session' to ensure matters are addressed in a timely manner. During the reporting period the Council considered five 'out of session' matters.

5.4.3 Remuneration

Training Accreditation Council members are entitled to receive remuneration in the form of sitting fees, as provided under Section 63 of the VET Act. During the 2025-2026 reporting period, Council members received remuneration as outlined in Table 2.

Position	Name	Type	Period	Sitting fees	Gross/actual
Chairperson	Anne Driscoll	Annual	9 months	\$39,442	\$29,581.47
Chairperson	Allan Blagaich	Annual	4 months	\$39,442	\$9,203.12
Member	Barbara-Anne Brown	Annual	12 months	\$22,150	\$22,150
Member	Keryn Carter	Annual	12 months	\$22,150	\$22,150
Member	Mairead Dempsey	N/A	12 months	\$0	\$0 ^(a)
Member	Louise Hillman	Annual	12 months	\$22,150	\$22,150
Member	Jill Jamieson	Annual	12 months	\$22,150	\$22,150
Member	Bill Swetman	Annual	12 months	\$22,150	\$22,150
					\$149,534.59

(a) Not eligible for remuneration in 2025-2026 as the member is a full-time State Government employee.

Table 2: Council Remuneration

5.4.4 Compliance with the Standards for VET Regulators 2015

The Standards for VET Regulators 2015 outline the national framework for VET regulators to ensure:

- regulation of RTOs and VET accredited courses uses a risk-based approach which is consistent, effective, proportional, responsive and transparent;
- consistency in the implementation and interpretation of the Standards for RTOs 2015; and
- accountability and transparency in undertaking its regulatory functions.

An MoU between VET regulators ensures efficient and effective regulation across all jurisdictions including the application of the Standards for VET Regulators 2015, confirms collaboration arrangements and the exchange of information between VET regulators.

During the reporting period, the Council progressed a range of initiatives to ensure compliance with the Standards for VET Regulators 2015 and these are detailed throughout the report.

The TAC Risk Framework

The Council's TAC Risk Framework (the Framework) supports the regulation and quality assurance of the VET sector in WA. The Framework is designed in line with the Council's legislative requirements and the national Standards for VET Regulators 2015; and aligns with the 2025 Standards and with key aspects of the international standard on risk management *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines*. The [TAC Risk Framework](#)¹³ is published on the Council's website.

Engagement with Stakeholders

Engagement with stakeholders is a key component of the Council's Risk Framework and Strategic Plan. The intelligence gathered through stakeholder engagement ensures appropriate and timely regulatory responses are identified to address risks within the Western Australian VET sector.

¹³ <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/training-accreditation-council-risk-framework>

During the reporting period, the Council continued to proactively engage with stakeholders to strengthen information sharing and collaboration, and 116 formal meetings were undertaken with various stakeholders including VET and industry regulators, State and Commonwealth Government agencies, Western Australian Industry Training Councils, industry associations, employer groups and RTOs.

Key engagement activities included consultation with:

- industry regulators on the delivery of qualifications and units of competency linked to high-risk work licence outcomes, the White Card, heavy vehicle licensing, security industry, and early childhood education and care sector;
- industry and VET stakeholders in the development of the TAC Regulatory Strategy 2026-2027;
- the national Jobs and Skills Councils to discuss focus areas and projects;
- the Western Australian Industry Training Councils to discuss quality of training across their respective industries; and
- government agencies and industry regulators with whom the Council has established MoUs for information sharing on VET issues.

The Council reviewed and, where required, updated MoUs held with industry, VET regulators and government agencies.

VET Regulators

The Council formally met with the VET regulators, the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA), four times during the reporting period to discuss quality reform, the 2025 Standards and regulator activities. Additional meetings occurred during the reporting period to consider the development of guidance materials and communication strategies for the 2025 Standards.

National and State Government Agencies

As a key VET stakeholder, the Council continued to provide input into strategic policy and regulatory matters with State and Commonwealth Government agencies including the:

- DTWD on national training package development;
- Department of Transport regarding units of competency leading to heavy vehicle licensing;
- WA Police Force in relation to security qualifications and licensing;
- Department of Communities, Education and Care Regulatory Unit regarding delivery in early education and care qualifications;
- Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety in relation units of competency leading to the White Card and high-risk work licences;
- Commonwealth Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) on the national VET Data Streamlining project (VDS),
- Commonwealth Government Department of Education on the National Skills Passport; and
- National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) regarding the transition from the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations* (ANZSCO) to the *Occupation Standard Classification for Australia* (OSCA);

The Council works closely with the DTWD on matters impacting VET in Western Australia including information sharing in relation to areas of risk to the sector, particularly where decisions intersect or impact on VET regulatory activities and the requirements of the Standards for RTOs 2015.